

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 5, 2012
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 20, 2012
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 29, 2012
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2534

Introduced by Assembly Member Block

February 24, 2012

An act to add and repeal Section 78016.7 of the Education Code, relating to the California Community Colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2534, as amended, Block. The California Community Colleges: veterans ~~career technical~~ education pilot program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts, administered by a governing board, throughout the state, and authorizes these districts to provide instruction to students at the community college campuses maintained by the districts.

This bill would require the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to establish a voluntary pilot program, until January 1, 2021, ~~for purposes of authorizing a community college district to establish and maintain a career technical education program that factors experiential learning for veterans~~ 2018, *to identify, explore, and develop best practices for statewide policy on credit for experiential learning for veterans* for career technical education course credit, certificates, and associate degrees. The bill would require the chancellor

to consider specified information to select no more than 3 to 5 applicant campuses to participate in the pilot program. *The bill would require participating community college districts to report specified information to the Office of the Chancellor, which would be required to provide that information to the Legislative Analyst's Office by July 1, 2017.* The bill would require the Legislative Analyst's Office *to use this information to provide a report to the Legislature that evaluates the pilot program assesses the pilot program's effect on student veterans' success in reaching their educational goals, as specified, by June 30, 2020 December 1, 2017.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the~~
2 ~~following:~~

3 ~~(a) The California Community Colleges, with their mission to~~
4 ~~serve all Californians, have opened their doors to military veterans~~
5 ~~returning from a decade of combat service across the world.~~

6 ~~(b) The California Community Colleges, in serving this veteran~~
7 ~~population, should identify, explore, and develop best practices~~
8 ~~for statewide policy on credit for experiential learning for military~~
9 ~~veterans through a pilot program.~~

10 ~~(c) Where possible, community colleges participating in this~~
11 ~~pilot program should recognize the federal training and education~~
12 ~~received by veterans and identify course options to expedite the~~
13 ~~attainment of degree and certificate goals by military veterans.~~

14 ~~SEC. 2.~~

15 ~~SECTION 1.~~ Section 78016.7 is added to the Education Code,
16 ~~to read:~~

17 78016.7. (a) The Office of the Chancellor of the California
18 Community Colleges shall establish a voluntary pilot program for
19 ~~purposes of authorizing a community college district to establish~~
20 ~~and maintain a career technical education program that factors~~
21 ~~experiential learning for veterans to identify, explore, and develop~~
22 ~~best practices for a statewide policy on awarding credit for~~
23 ~~experiential learning for veterans for career technical education~~
24 ~~course credit, certificates, and associate degrees.~~

1 (b) The governing board of a community college district may
2 apply for a campus within its district to be selected to participate
3 in the pilot program, and the chancellor shall select no more than
4 three to five of those campuses to participate in the pilot program.
5 In selecting campuses for the pilot program, the chancellor shall
6 consider all of the following:

7 (1) The geographic, socioeconomic, and demographic diversity
8 of students attending the campus.

9 (2) The percentage of veterans on a campus and a campus'
10 existing veteran services and programs.

11 (3) The community college district's program and planning
12 capacity.

13 (4) The potential for support from funding partners in industry,
14 the military, labor, or other private funding sources to reduce the
15 cost of attendance for students participating in the pilot program.

16 (5) *The community college district's plan to recognize federal*
17 *training and education and to identify innovative options for*
18 *expediting the attainment of degree and certificate goals by*
19 *veterans.*

20 (c) The pilot program shall use ~~existing~~ resources, ~~including,~~
21 ~~but~~ *and strategies, which include, but are not limited to, the*
22 *American Council on Education's guidelines and*
23 *recommendations, partnerships between the community college*
24 *district and branches of the Armed Forces of the United States*
25 *that facilitate the transition of veterans into workforce partnership*
26 *jobs, course offerings that maximize the awarding of credit to*
27 *complete academic requirements, and stackable credential*
28 *programs, to determine the value of a veteran's prior professional*
29 *military training, education, and experience.*

30 (d) Career technical education course credit and certificates for
31 the pilot program may include credit earned as a result of prior
32 military service.

33 (e) ~~The~~ *For purposes of the pilot program, the* governing board
34 of a community college district may approve credit courses that
35 are not part of an approved educational program for a campus that
36 participates in the pilot program, in accordance with Section 70901,
37 for the duration of the pilot program.

38 (f) *Community college districts participating in the pilot*
39 *program shall report all of the following information to the Office*
40 *of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, which*

1 *shall provide this information to the Legislative Analyst's Office*
2 *on or before July 1, 2017:*

3 *(1) The geographic, socioeconomic, and demographic diversity*
4 *of students participating in the pilot program.*

5 *(2) Summary statistics on enrollment, financing sources,*
6 *completion rates, and credit granted for prior learning experience*
7 *for the pilot program.*

8 ~~(f)~~

9 ~~(g) On or before June 30, 2020~~ *December 1, 2017, the*
10 *Legislative Analyst's Office shall provide a report to the*
11 *Legislature that evaluates the pilot program established by this*
12 ~~section, drawing~~ *assesses the pilot program's effect on student*
13 *veterans' success in reaching their educational goals using*
14 *information provided pursuant to subdivision (f). In preparing this*
15 *report, the Legislative Analyst's Office may draw upon campus*
16 *reports; campus visits; interviews with faculty, students, and*
17 *administrators; and other sources the Legislative Analyst's Office*
18 *deems relevant. The report shall include all of the following:*

19 *(1) An identification of best practices that emerge from the pilot*
20 *program that the Legislature may want to consider for statewide*
21 *policy regarding credit for experiential learning for veterans.*

22 ~~(1)~~

23 *(2) The geographic, socioeconomic, and demographic diversity*
24 *of students participating in the pilot program.*

25 ~~(2)~~

26 *(3) Summary statistics on enrollment, financing sources,*
27 *completion rates, and credit granted for prior learning experience*
28 *for the pilot program.*

29 ~~(3)~~

30 *(4) An assessment of the pilot program's effect on student*
31 *veterans' success in reaching their educational goals.*

32 ~~(4)~~

33 *(5) Recommendations regarding the extension, expansion, or*
34 *modification of the pilot program.*

35 ~~(g)~~

36 *(h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2021*
37 *2018, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,*

1 that is enacted before January 1, ~~2021~~ 2018, deletes or extends
2 that date.

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